a controller for discarding the image data stored in the first memory when the

command of discarding the image data is generated by command means, while maintaining

the associated image forming conditions stored in the second memory.

5. (Amended) The image forming apparatus as recited in claim 3, wherein the first

memory stores a plurality of image data, and the output control means gives priority to the

newly inputted image data to be printed under the maintained image forming conditions

over the rest of the image data.

7. (Amended) The image forming apparatus as recited in claim 6, wherein if the

image reader is reading another original, the command means generates a command of

suspending the reading operation, and at the same time, it generates a command of

discarding the image data to be printed.

8. (Amended) The image forming apparatus as recited in claim 6, wherein if the

image reader is reading another original, the command means generates a command of

discarding the image data to be printed after the reading operation for another original has

been completed.

14. (Amended) The image forming apparatus as recited in claim 12, wherein if the

image reader is reading another original, the command means generates a command of

suspending the reading operation, and at the same time, it generates a command of

discarding the image data to be printed.

15. (Amended) The image forming apparatus as recited in claim 12, wherein if the

image reader is reading another original, the command means generates a command of

discarding the image data to be printed after the reading operation for another original has

been completed.

16. (Amended) An image forming method, comprising the steps of:

storing image data in an image memory;

storing image forming conditions for the image data in a memory;

printing an image on a paper, based on the image data stored in the image memory,

under the image forming conditions stored in the memory;

generating an command of discarding the image data whose image is to be printed;

erasing the image data from the image memory in response to the command, while

maintaining the associated image forming conditions in the memory;

acquiring new image data and storing the new image data in the image memory; and

printing an image on a paper, based on the newly acquired image data, under the

image forming conditions maintained in the memory.

18. (Amended) The image forming method as recited in claim 16, further comprising the step of printing image data of another print job on a waiting list after the newly acquired image data has completely been printed.

Kindly add the following new Claim 19.

-- 19. (New) An image forming apparatus, comprising:

a first memory for storing image data;

a second memory for storing image forming conditions;

an image output unit for printing image data stored in a first memory under the image forming conditions stored in the second memory;

command means for generating a command of discarding the image data to be printed from the image output unit; and

a controller for discarding the image data stored in the first memory when the command of discarding the image data is generated by command means, while maintaining the associated image forming conditions stored in the second memory;

wherein the first memory stores a plurality of image data, and the output control means gives priority to the newly inputted image data to be printed under the maintained image forming conditions over the rest of the image data.